

GREGORY S. HEIM AND METROPOLITAN COIN CLUB OF ATLANTA RECEIVE NATIONAL COIN WEEK AWARDS

Winners of the American Numismatic Association's (ANA) 2000 National Coin Week Award were announced during the ANA 109th Anniversary Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The theme of the 77th observance of the ANA-sponsored event was "Discover America," embracing the United States Mint's 50 State Quarters Program to celebrate the week of April 16-22. Each award recipient receives a full scholarship to the ANA's Annual Summer Seminar.

Gregory S. Heim of North Brunswick, New Jersey, used National Coin Week to not only talk about America's coinage, but also to help non-collectors discover forgotten issues by spending old and rarely seen coins. He spent the third week in April deliberately not spending \$1 bills. Instead, he carried six types of nickels, three different types of spendable dollar coins, half dollars, Indian Head cents and a 2-cent piece. Throughout the week, he used Eisenhower and Sacagawea dollars, Kennedy half dollars, Buffalo and V nickels, new 50 State quarters and Indian Head cents at fast-food restaurants, and convenience and grocery stores.

The Metropolitan Coin Club of Atlanta (MCCA), Georgia, celebrated National Coin Week with visits to schools, where club members discussed discovering American history and lore through coins. Students received early- and late-20th century coins.

Also as part of National Coin Week, young members of the MCCA joined their non-collecting friends for a field trip to Georgia's Dahlonega Courthouse Gold Museum, built on the site of the United States Mint that operated from 1838 to 1861. In addition, four participants visited the Consolidated Gold Mine, the largest gold-mining operation east of the Mississippi River, taking a walk through the underground facility and trying their hand at gold panning.

In bestowing the awards for National Coin Week, the American Numismatic Association expresses the sincere appreciation of its members.

The American Numismatic Association is a congressionally chartered nonprofit educational organization dedicated to encouraging people to study and collect money and related items. The ANA helps its 28,000 members and the public discover and explore the world of money through its vast array of education and outreach programs, as well as its museum, library, publications, conventions and seminars. For more information, call 719-632-2646 or go to www.money.org.